

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 CU-02 MED-02 OES-02 HEW-02 IO-04

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R 010529Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8001

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FOL TEL DATED 31 OCT FROM CHIANG MAI SENT ACTION BANGKOK  
REPEATED FOR UR INFO

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CHIANG MAI 379

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, TH

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION AGAINST MALAN

REF: CHIANG MAI'S 376

1. CHIANG MAI NEWSPAPERS ON OCT 30 AND 31 EMBELLISHED  
PROTEST OVER MALAN REPORTED REFTEL. "THIN THAI" SAID  
THAT ON AFTERNOON OCT 29 DR. TAWAN KANGWANPONG, CM UNIV  
RECTOR AND DEAN FACULTY OF MEDICINE, HELD MEETING WITH  
PROTESTERS AND TRIED TO "BEAT AROUND THE BUSH" IN  
PRESENTATION WHICH LED TO WALK-OUT AMONG INTERNS. REPORT  
ALSO SAID THE "HUMAN EXPERIMENTAL COMMITTEE" (SIC) WAS  
AWARE OF ALGAE RESEARCH, BUT HAD NOT APPROVED IT.  
ARTICLE REPORTED PRESS REPRESENTATIVES HAD MET WITH  
DR. OLSON AND DR. AVUDH SRISUKREE (JOINT DIRECTORS OF  
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MALAN) ON OCT 29 AND WERE TOLD INSTITUTE HAD CONDUCTED

ALGAE EXPERIMENT ON ONLY THREE MEN FOR FIVE MONTHS; KASETSART UNIV SENT SAME ALGAE FORMULA AS USED IN SIMILAR EXPERIMENTS IN CALIF, AFRICA, INDIA AND SOUTH AMERICA. REPORTERS TALKED WITH ONE OF MEN BEING USED IN EXPERIMENT WHO SAID ONLY BLOOD TESTS HAD BEEN RUN, NO LIVER SAMPLES. (SOME OF PROTESTERS HAD ALLEGED THAT BIOPSIES HAD BEEN PERFORMED ON LIVER SAMPLES TAKEN FROM "HUMAN GUINEA PIGS.") RE MALAN'S FAMILY PLANNING WORK, NEWSMEN ASKED WHETHER AMERICAN WOMEN WERE GIVEN SHOTS AND OLSON REPLIED THAT PILLS ARE MORE POPULAR IN U.S. ARTICLE WENT ON TO SAY, "AT PRESENT THERE ARE 12 MALNUTRITIONED CHILDREN BEING TREATED AT THE INSTITUTE. SINCE THE OPENING OF THE INSTITUTE, 15 PATIENTS HAVE DIED, ALL OF THEM CHILDREN." (NOTE: ASSUME THIS TO BE MISCONSTRUED INFORMATION RE MORTALITY RATE AMONG MALNUTRITIONED REFERRED TO IN DR. TAWAN'S REBUTTAL -- SEE BELOW.) "THIN THAI" CLOSED ARTICLE SAYING IT WILL TRY TO FIND OUT MORE AND REPORT FURTHER ON MATTER.

2. MORE SPECTACULAR WAS FRONT PAGE REPORT IN "LOM LAENG" (A NEW TABLOID WHICH COMES OUT EVERY 10 DAYS -- THIS WAS THEIR 7TH ISSUE) ALLEGING IN BANNER HEADLINE "CIA ESTABLISHES CENTER AT SUAN DOK HOSPITAL TO SERVE AS MEETING PLACE OF SECRET AGENTS." ARTICLE STATES REPORTER HAD LEARNED FROM PROTESTERS THAT MALAN WAS MERELY A COVER FOR CIA IN ATTEMPT CREATE DISUNITY AMONG THAI DOCTORS. INSTITUTE HIRES DOCTORS FROM MEDICAL FACULTY WHO SPEND MOST OF TIME WORKING AT MALAN RATHER THAN TEACHING ALTHOUGH THEY RETAIN GOVERNMENT SALARIES. ARTICLE GOES ON TO COMPLAIN ABOUT MALAN'S OVER-USE OF PARKING LOT AND REITERATE CHARGES OF USING THAI AS GUINEA PIGS.

3. DR. TAWAN HAS TELEGRAPHED REBUTTAL TO BANGKOK AND CM NEWSPAPERS WHO HAVE CARRIED DEROGATORY STORIES. FOLLOWING IS ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSION OF DR. TAWAN'S CABLE SENT BANGKOK "POST":

"PLEASE PRINT PROMINENTLY FORTHWITH THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL DENIAL OF LIBELLOUS AND TOTALLY UNTRUE REPORT PAGE 5 BANGKOK POST 30 OCTOBER: REPORTS IN THAI AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PAPERS OF DEATHS FOLLOWING LIVER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BIOPSIES ON VOLUNTEER RESEARCH PATIENTS AT RESEARCH INSTITUTE FACULTY OF MEDICINE CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY ARE TOTALLY UNTRUE.

"TESTS OF ALGAE AS HUMAN NUTRIENT ARE BEING CONDUCTED AT RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON BEHALF OF INSTITUTE FOR FOOD RESEARCH AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT KASETSART UNIVERSITY BANGKOK. AFTER TWO AMERICAN RESEARCHERS HAD CONSUMED ALGAE AT INSTITUTE WITHOUT ILL EFFECTS,

THREE THAI VOLUNTEERS BEGAN ALGAE TESTS IN OCTOBER 1974. ONLY THREE THAI HAVE SO FAR PARTICIPATED IN THE TEST. ALL ARE ALIVE AND WELL. NONE HAVE DIED. NO LIVER BIOPSIES OR BONE MARROW ASPIRATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED ON THEM. NONE ARE ENVISAGED IN THE RESEARCH PROTOCOL.

"OTHER TESTS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT AT INSTITUTE AT REQUEST OF W.H.O. FOR STUDY OF METABOLIC EFFECTS ON THAI WOMEN OF A CONTRACEPTIVE DRUG WHICH HAS BEEN USED ALL OVER THE WORLD INCLUDING AMERICA AND EUROPE FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS. NO SIDE EFFECTS OBSERVED IN VOLUNTEER PATIENTS. ALL ARE WELL. AGAIN ABSOLUTELY NO LIVER BIOPSIES OR BONE MARROW ASPIRATIONS CONDUCTED OR ENVISAGED.

"WORK ON CURE OF PROTEIN CALORIE MALNUTRITION IN THAI INFANTS CONDUCTED AT INSTITUTE SINCE 1968 HAS REDUCED DEATH RATE ON INSTITUTE PEDIATRIC WARD TO ABOUT 5 PERCENT OF ALL CASES ADMITTED AND TREATED. THIS IS AMONG LOWEST MORTALITY RATE ANYWHERE AND COMPARES WITH WORLDWIDE AVERAGE OF UP TO 40 PERCENT MORTALITY FROM THIS DISEASE IN HOSPITALS ELSEWHERE.

"FULL PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWS BY MAIL."

4. CONSULATE WILL POUCH TRANSLATION OF FULL PRESS RELEASE ALONG WITH TRANSLATIONS CM PRESS ARTICLES RE MALAN ON NEXT MAIL PLANE, SCHEDULED FOR NOV 1.
5. FYINC AS MENTIONED IN CONSULATE TELECON WITH EMB PRESS ATTACHE, MALAN FUNDING INCLUDES \$2,629,585 FROM NIH, \$600,000 FROM ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION, \$172,825 FROM W.H.O., \$72,957 FROM GERMAN GOVT. AND \$13,494 FROM THAI GOVT (BOTH THROUGH KASETSART FOR ALGAE RESEARCH) PLUS 2 MILLION BAHT ALLOCATION FOR THIS FY FROM RTG. RTG ALSO CONTRIBUTED BUILDING WHICH HOUSES MALAN. MR. GIBSON, MALAN ADMINISTRATOR, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TOLD CONSULATE OFFICER MALAN DOES NOT WANT FUNDING DETAILS RELEASED TO PRESS. HARBIN UNQTE KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, MEDICAL RESEARCH, MALAN  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** smithrj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D740312-0986  
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**TAGS:** PINS, TH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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